

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the title as shown:

~~SUBMERGED WATER INLET STRAINER FOR A WATER HOSE~~

Please amend the following paragraph as shown:

[22] Referring to Figs. 1A-1E, the strainer 10 comprises a substantially closed, submergible, hollow structure 12, in the particular embodiment illustrated being a rectangular box-like structure enclosing a volume of space. In an embodiment anticipated but not illustrated, the hollow structure could be, for example, cylindrical, with a circular plan aspect instead of a rectangular plan aspect. The top wall 14 of the structure 12 is essentially flat and featureless, and, importantly, closed, so that water does not flow in or out of the structure through the top wall. Side walls are essentially identical, with the exception being the front wall 16A, in which a hole (i.e., opening) is formed and a threaded hose connection 18 is provided. The rear wall 16D is featureless and side walls 16B, 16C can be featureless, although the embodiment illustrated shows them having handles 20. As shown in phantom in FIGS. 1A-1D, the interior of the strainer 10 comprises enclosed volumes of space 50 or air chambers formed on either side of a water passageway 52. The air chambers 50 are generally shown having a square cross-section and extending the length of the strainer housing to each form an enclosed rectangular space. The water passageway 52 is shown between air chambers 50 and is shown having a generally rectangular cross-section and extending the length of the strainer housing. The water passageway 52 has a water inlet shown generally at 24 and an outlet shown generally at 18. The inlet 24 allows water into the water passageway 52 and outlet 18 allows water out of the water passageway 52. The strainer 10 may also comprise air pressurization ports 60 associated with each air chamber 50. The air pressurization ports 60 allow the air chambers 50 to be filled with an appropriate amount of pressurized air. The air chambers 52 as shown make up over 50% by volume of the strainer 10. Given the size of the air chambers 50, it is inherent that the strainer 10 having pressurized air chambers 52 can float in the water if sufficient buoyant force is provided by the pressurized air chambers 52 to overcome the weight of the strainer 10 and the water in the water passageway 50. As the air chambers 52 are above the inlet 24, the inlet 24 will be submerged in the water.